



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 13, 2007

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MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS FOR TRAFFICKING 2,329 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA

TUCSON – Gerardo Mendivil-Alvarez, 25, of Rancho La Puerta Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico was sentenced this morning to 120 months in prison, by U.S. District Judge Cindy K. Jorgenson. Gerardo Mendivil-Alvarez pleaded guilty on October 20, 2006, to Possessing with the Intent to Distribute 2,329 pounds of marijuana.

On November 23, 2005, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Special Agents assisted by United States Border Patrol Agents received information that a large amount of marijuana was being stored in a recreational vehicle trailer near Arivaca, Arizona. Agents responded to the scene and found Gerardo Mendivil-Alvarez guarding over a ton of marijuana.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Arizona Border Enforcement Security Task Force led by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in partnership with and assisted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, and the United States Border Patrol. The prosecution is being handled by David P. Petermann and Angela Woolridge, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, District of Arizona, Tucson.

The Arizona Border Enforcement and Security Task Force (B.E.S.T.) focuses its efforts on enforcing the interdiction and prosecution of cross-border organizations responsible for the smuggling of drugs, persons, money, and weapons into and from the United States.

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-2425-TUC-CKJ
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-109(Mendivil-Alvarez)

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